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Letter dated 19 May 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Riyadh final communiqué, which was issued on 19 May 2015, at the end of the Riyadh Conference on Saving Yemen and Building a Federal State (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated to the members of the Security Council, and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Khaled H. **Alyemany**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Reissued for technical reasons on 1 June 2015.

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Annex to the letter dated 19 May 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

Riyadh Conference on Saving Yemen and Building a Federal State 17 to 19 May 2015

Final communiqué

The Riyadh Conference was held from 17 to 19 May 2015, as the steadfast popular resistance forces were amassing victories in Aden, Dali', Lahij, Tai'zz, Shabwah, Ma'rib, Abyan, Bayda', Hudaydah and other cities and villages in the north and south of Yemen. A broad range of political and social forces and actors, civil society organizations and youth and women's organizations participated in the Conference, which was held thanks to the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and his fellow leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The Conference was convened in response to the appeal made by President Abdrabuh Mansour Hadi Mansour of the Republic of Yemen and was chaired by him. The opening session, which was chaired by the President and his deputy, was held on 17 May and was attended by Mr. Abdul Latif Al-Zayani, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council; Mr. Ahmed Ben Helli, Assistant Secretary-General of the League of Arab States; Mr. Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to Yemen; Mr. Salih al-Qunay'ir, Envoy of the Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council; and the ambassadors of the countries sponsoring and supporting the transitional period.

Closed sessions were held in which the draft of the present communiqué was reviewed and discussed by the participants. A committee was formed to receive suggestions and draft the final communiqué.

The Conference was held in extremely complex conditions following the coup against the legitimate authorities led by the Houthi militias and forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Salih. The capital, Sana'a, fell, the President and the Government were placed under house arrest, and the war spread rest of the governorates, including Aden. Those developments are a threat to the security and sovereignty of Yemen, the security of the Gulf and international peace and security. They are also part of a foreign agenda aimed at undermining Arab security and turning Yemen into a platform from which foreign powers can exert their influence in the region. In view of those developments, on 24 March 2015, President Hadi sent a letter to the leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council calling on them to stand by and protect the Yemeni people and to provide immediate assistance by all means necessary, in order to protect Yemen and its people from the continuing aggression of the Houthi militias and their ally, Ali Abdullah Salih, and to repel the attacks against Aden and all other parts of the country, whether in the north or the south.

The leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council responded to President Hadi's letter and decided that the alliance would stand by the legitimate authorities, for which the international community had expressed its support in Security Council resolution 2216 (2015).

This Conference was held in accordance with the executive measures set out in the present communiqué. A consultative committee composed of representatives of the various participating forces and actors was established to prepare for the Riyadh Conference. In addition, the essential teams required to organize the work of the Conference were formed (coordination and technical support office) and drafts of the basic documents were prepared. Those documents were discussed throughout the course of the Conference, and the present communiqué and the Riyadh Declaration are the products of that process.

In view of the foregoing, in keeping with our sense of national responsibility and in response to the challenges before us, we, the participants:

1. Declare our absolute support for the legitimate authorities pursuant to the constitution, namely, President Abdrabuh Mansour Hadi Mansour, and pledge to strive by every means to reverse the coup and all its consequences and ensure that the legitimate State institutions are once more able to exercise all functions and powers.

2. Declare our full support for the efforts of the United Nations, the Gulf Cooperation Council, under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and his fellow leaders of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, and the leaders of the fraternal Arab States and friendly countries participating in the coalition, who were quick to respond to the appeal of President Hadi to intervene in support of the legitimate constitutional authorities, reverse the coup and stand by the Yemeni people, as human conscience and the bonds of neighbourliness and brotherhood demand.

3. Pledge to accelerate and intensify support for the popular resistance in Aden, Tai'zz and every part of Yemen, and to provide its members with weapons and logistical support, and assistance in organizing and coordinating their efforts.

4. Demand of the Security Council to implement fully its resolution 2216 (2015) and other relevant international resolutions, as those are the basis of any political and peaceful solution in Yemen.

5. Call on the United Nations, the League of Arab States and the Gulf Cooperation Council to create a joint Arab military force to secure key cities, oversee implementation of Security Council resolutions and ensure that rebel forces withdraw fully from all cities and hand over State institutions and looted weapons.

6. Affirm that the Government must immediately begin efforts to ensure that the appropriate conditions are in place to care for the families of the dead and for the injured, displaced persons and all victims of the war.

7. Affirm the critical importance of speeding up efforts to coordinate and implement an urgent humanitarian relief programme that meets all the needs of civilians, who are being subjected to brutal attacks by the Houthi militias and Ali Abdullah Salih, particularly in Aden.

8. Recommend that the Government should follow up on the Riyadh Declaration and take all necessary measures to move the Government back to the homeland as soon as possible.

9. Affirm that the position taken by the Arab coalition, which is led by Saudi Arabia, was a source of hope and was met with popular and political support in

Yemen, with the aim of dislodging the Houthi militias responsible for the coup and reinstating the legitimate Government, and that the position taken by the Arab and Gulf States demonstrates their keenness to maintain the unity, security and stability of Yemen, and their belief in a common Arab destiny.

10. Affirm that they are advocates of peace, which will only be achieved by the complete withdrawal of the militias of the Houthis and Ali Abdullah Salih from the capital, Sana'a, and all other Yemeni cities in both the north and the south; the cessation of the war and all acts of aggression against the Yemeni people; the resumption by the legitimate authorities of the exercise of their constitutionally and legally mandated powers; and the extension of State authority over all national territory, with a view to completing the outstanding tasks planned for the transitional period and implementing the outcomes of the All-Inclusive National Dialogue Conference.

11. Demand that the Government should restructure the High Relief Committee and increase its effectiveness, in order to ensure that humanitarian aid reaches those who need it, to develop without delay a solution to the issue of Yemenis stranded abroad and to set up camps for displaced persons and provide them with the necessary care.

Lastly, the Riyadh Conference would like to thank the secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the consultative committee and the coordination office for their efforts in preparing for this Conference and ensuring its success.